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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Iran
 SUBJECT Foreign Trade

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1. "Current signs show that in 1955 imports from the UK will reach from US\$60 million to US\$70 million. One reason for the high increase is the 10 million pounds credit made by the UK. Iranian trade with Germany and France is also increasing, because of purchases of machinery and goods from these countries.
2. "It is reported that the alliance of the countries of the Near East is receiving increased attention and missions from Turkey and Pakistan will come to Iran. Conferences between the Ministry of National Economy and Commercial representatives of the Soviet Union concerning the exchange of goods and raw materials have started.
3. "Delegates in the Majlis are dealing with the government bill relative to loans and grants from the US; loan offered by the UK; and loan offered by France. In a recent debate in the Majlis, one of the members in discussing a trade agreement with the USSR spoke of the Soviet Union as 'our beloved neighbor' and referred to 'peaceful coexistence' as an important issue which is attracting worldwide consideration. He added that the former view that a Capitalist nation cannot coexist with a Communist nation no longer holds. As proof of this, he pointed to friendly relations between the UK and the USSR. In this connection, Entezam, the Foreign Minister, stated that the recent settlements of frontier questions with the Soviet Union have been to the advantage of Iran. The report that Iran has joined the Turkish-Pakistan arms agreement has been denied in Teheran.
4. "To protect foreign capitalists intending to invest in Iran, the government is taking steps which would encourage foreign investments. This plan is under consideration by a committee of the government and will be made public in due course. The foreign capital referred to will consist of foreign exchange or foreign goods such as industrial machinery, etc., etc. The

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- 2 -

regulation and program for this matter is being drawn up and will shortly be presented to the cabinet for approval."

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